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**Euthanasia in the spotlight**

Former Harper cabinet minister plans to introduce bills which would allow assisted suicide in some cases

PAGE 13

Animal killers at it again

The Copenhagen Zoo, which made international headlines after killing a healthy giraffe, now faces flak for its lion 'cull'

PAGE 15

TAKING CONTROL

DAY 2 OF METRO'S LOOK AT FIRST NATIONS SCHOOLS: DOES THE NEW ACT GET A PASSING GRADE?

PAGES 10 & 11

**'OUR CITY HAS LOST A CHAMPION'**

Former alderman and MLA Jon Lord, seen here during his run for mayor in last October's municipal election, is being remembered by friends, family, political allies and political rivals as a man who cared deeply about Calgary and Alberta. "Our city has lost a champion, and far too soon," Mayor Naheed Nenshi said of his challenger, who finished second in the 2013 vote. Lord died suddenly Tuesday night. For the story, see page 6. METRO FILE

Explore our gallery, floorplans, showhome maps and more at MorrisonHomes.ca**THE HOMEBUYER'S BEST FRIEND****MORRISON HOMES 50 years****Mother of victims backs rail-crossing safety push**

Camper crash. New report details train tragedy that claimed three Alberta kids



BRYAN WEISMILLER
bryan.weismiller@metronews.ca

It didn't take a federal report for heartbroken mother Vicki Morrison to call for increased safety measures at uncontrolled railway crossings.

Almost 18 months after two of her kids and two others were killed in a horrific crash, Morrison says "sightlines and stop signs" could've kept her family off the path of a freight train.

"Since the accident we've had countless people tell us how many close calls they've had with crossings just like that one," she said. "Two seconds would've made ours a close call, too."

Luke Morrison, Vicki's son, was the 15-year-old

driver at the wheel of the family's camper van when it was T-boned by a Canadian Pacific train in Broadview, Sask.

Luke survived, but his 11-year-old sister and seven-year-old brother Roy, as well as a 10-year-old friend were killed. The group was heading from Calgary-neighbouring town of Turner Valley to a family friend's farm.

Another woman from rural Saskatchewan also died.

Like so many other summer-loving southern Albertans, such a tragedy wasn't expected when they piled into a Ford camper and hit the open road.

However, in a report on the crash published Wednesday, federal investigators warned road travellers will continue to die in car-versus-freight train crashes unless changes are made.

The Transportation Safety Board of Canada cautioned: "in the absence of timely implementation of low-cost alert systems, the risk of ac-

idents at passive crossings will continue."

In addition to those four deaths highlighted, 55 fatalities and 107 serious injuries have been reported at so-called passive public rail crossings between 2003 and 2012.

Safety board spokesman Rob Johnston said it would be very expensive to equip all rail crossings with automated gates and bells, adding research is needed to find an affordable alternative.

Specific to the Broadview tragedy, investigators pointed to the driver's limited experience under the circumstances as a factor in the crash, along with an obstructed view, the setting sun and the tired state of the supervising driver.

Morrison defended her son, saying he grew up driving farm vehicles from an early age and contended trees and bushes made it tough to see the tracks. She also contended fatigue wasn't an issue.

WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

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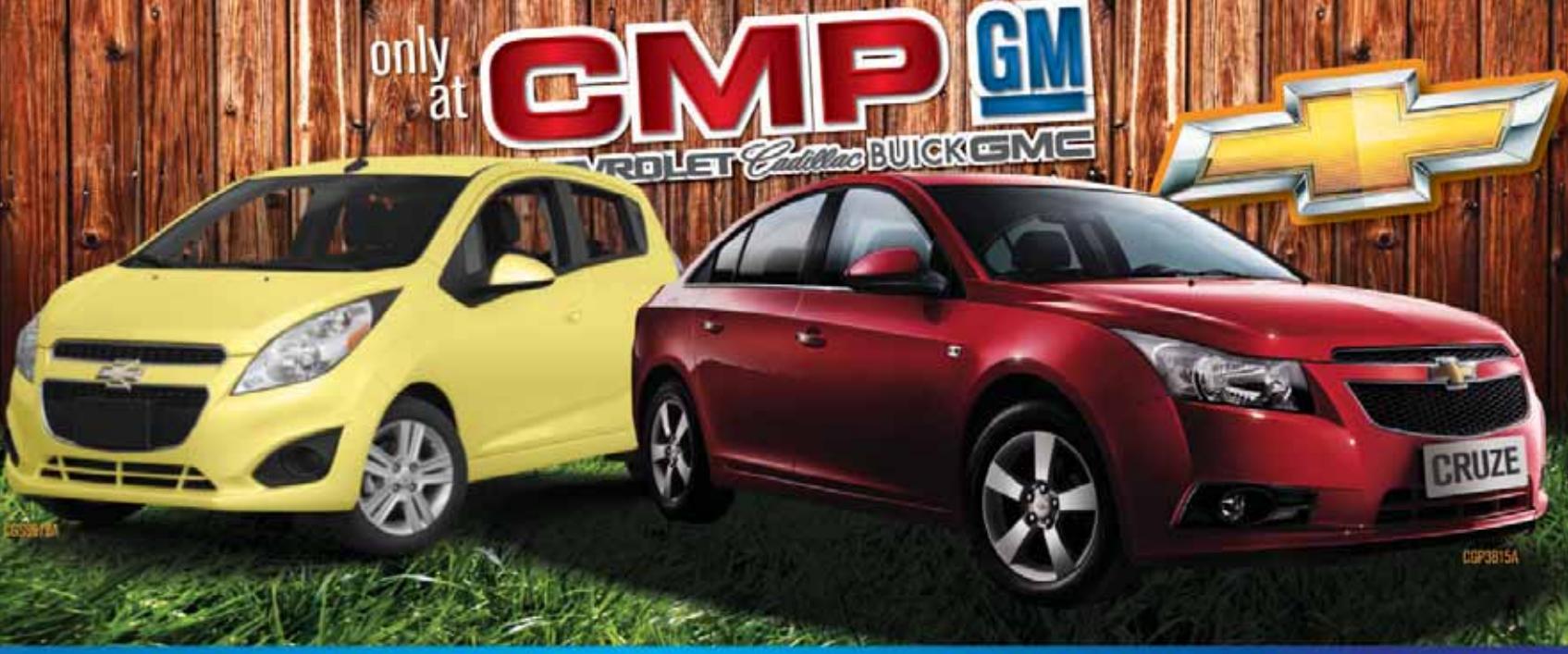
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AHS. Alta. to have one fewer air ambulance

At least one of Alberta's 12 medevac planes will be taken offline next month, as last-minute negotiations continue over contracts set to expire on March 31.

Integra Air won't have its regular air-ambulance fleet of three King Air B200s available in April, according to CEO Brent Gateman, due to uncertainty surrounding the contracts. "We are currently taking some of those offline and replacing them with some temporary aircraft until we know exactly what long-term (contract) terms we do have."

Integra is one of five air-ambulance providers currently negotiating extensions with Alberta Health Services.

Gateman expects to have an agreement in place by the end of the week but said the situation has been challenging.

"We're now kind of scrambling," he said.

AHS issued a written statement from Rick Trimp, interim president of population health and provincewide services.

"If an Albertan needs an air ambulance, they will receive this service without a gap in service provision," he wrote.

Wildrose health critic Heather Forsyth called the situation "unacceptable."

"You just can't expect people to try and plan things three days before they're hoping — hoping — to get a new contract," she said. "It just shows how dysfunctional, quite frankly, that Alberta Health Services is."

While STARS helicopters tend to get more attention, Gateman said fixed-wing aircraft provide more than 90 per cent of medevac flights in the province. **ROBSON FLETCHER/METRO**

Feeling uneasy waiting for CTrain?

Study. Real-time signs make some feel better about the wait



**BRYAN
WEISMILLER**

bryan.weismiller@metronews.ca

Electronic time displays ease the scourge of waiting for the LRT, according to new research from a graduate student in Calgary.

In what's being billed as a groundbreaking study, Yuan Bai looked at how the real-time scheduling information alters people's appetite for public transportation — depending on their background.

At a high level, Bai found Calgarians were less likely to ditch transit when they knew roughly how long they'd be stuck on a CTrain platform.

The study shows that

At a glance

A total of 505 responses were collected through paper surveys and online surveys, with more weight placed on younger adult riders (under 25), compared to older (55+).

- The report and its chief author made several recommendations to Calgary Transit including bringing on car-share programs, heated shelters and a call-in line for real-time updates.



Yuan Bai, a graduate student at the University of Calgary, studied how Calgary Transit riders respond to real-time information about LRT schedules posted on the platform. **BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO**

reducing uncertainty in waiting time helps increase satisfaction," she wrote in the findings of her 121-page report.

Calgary Transit installed the digital signs known as Advanced Passenger Information System at LRT stations in 2011. The signs denote how many minutes until the next train is scheduled to arrive.

In one scenario of the study, researchers asked weekday riders what they would do if they knew an LRT train was going to be delayed

by 10 minutes.

Respondents with a high familiarity with the digital sign system were shown to be less likely to hop into a taxi or their personal vehicle.

In an interview, Bai was keen to shed more light on how people's "mode-switch" behaviour is influenced by their background.

The study found socio-economic factors — age, gender, number of automobiles per household — strongly influenced behaviour, when put in the context of real-time

LRT information.

Spokesman Ron Collins confirmed Bai presented her study to some of Calgary Transit's bigwigs before it was made public earlier this year. Collins says it's helpful as the service moves forward with initiatives like real-time bus location information, which is expected to be rolled out later this year.

"We want our customers to be able to make an informed decision based on information they've got from us," he said.

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NEWS

Unescorted absences granted to man convicted in Mountie deaths



Shawn Hennessey THE CANADIAN PRESS

A man convicted of manslaughter for his role in the shooting deaths of four Alberta RCMP officers near Mayerthorpe has been granted unescorted, temporary absences from prison.

The National Parole Board ruled following a hearing at Bowden Institution on Wednesday that Shawn Hennessey will be allowed out for up to 72 hours at a time over the next

six months.

Board spokesman Gary Sears said Hennessey, 34, will have to follow certain restrictions. "There are three conditions: not to consume or possess alcohol, not to consume, purchase or possess drugs and to avoid negative associates, those involved in criminal activity," Sears said.

Hennessey was sentenced

to 15 years in prison, but his jail time was reduced to a little more than 10 years because he pleaded guilty and spent time in pretrial custody.

He and his brother-in-law Dennis Cheeseman gave gunman James Roszko a rifle and ride to Roszko's farm where he ambushed and killed the RCMP officers in March 2005.

The officers were stak-

ing out a marijuana grow-op and auto chop shop that had been discovered on Roszko's property when they were ambushed. Roszko killed himself after being shot by another Mountie who had just arrived.

Cheeseman was sentenced to 12 years, but his jail time worked out to just over seven years because of credit he, too, received. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Michelle Krsek

Calgary girl killed by construction debris honoured

City of Calgary officials will present two post-secondary academic awards created to honour a young girl killed by falling construction debris in 2009.

Michelle Krsek was killed instantly when a section of sheet metal fell from the roof of the Le Germain Residences and struck her. Her father and brother were also injured.

The awards valued at \$1,750 each will be given to two students enrolled in SAIT's Bachelor of Science in construction project management. "Michelle has not since been forgotten, and her untimely death has become a catalyst for public awareness with respect to the public safety of construction projects," the city said. METRO

Cop-involved shooting

RCMP ID killed gunman

Authorities confirmed popular car dealer Chester Hunchak was killed before Medicine Hat police opened fire on a deranged gunman.

On Wednesday, Mounties also fingered 50-year-old Christopher Arkell as the gun-wielding man who threatened to shoot officers and was spotted trying to move Hunchak's body on the rural property on March 22. In the recent fracas, Arkell was at the centre of a standoff with police on his property outside the southern Alberta city. Shortly after, investigators say he attempted to charge police and was shot with a service-issued weapon.

BRYAN WEISMILLER/METRO

Weed users hope events sprout funds for federal court fight

Marijuana reform

retort. Vaporizers, glass art up for grabs during green-friendly auction

Marijuana vapour and comedy will mix next month as a grassroots Calgary group sparks up fundraising efforts for a looming courtroom showdown with the federal government.

The event, being held at an undisclosed location for safety and privacy reasons, will be lighthearted in nature but, as many medicinal marijuana patients claim, the stakes couldn't be higher. Chief among their concerns is a push by the federal government to move production of marijuana out of the homes of licensed users and into commercial establish-

calgary420.ca

For more information on the medicinal marijuana fundraising events, head to calgary420.ca. Advanced tickets can be purchased at Bongs and Such, Hemp Roots and The Next Level.

ments. But Calgary patients who've spent years nurturing their plants in private have concerns about accessing an adequate supply of the drug, the potential for rising costs and a lack of available strains.

"It's easy to pick the low-hanging fruit — the vulnerable people, the sick people," said Keith Fagin, Calgary 420 organizer. "We're literally on our knees here begging people to help us stop the government from doing this, to listen to the science and the evidence and help these people have at least some quality of life."

On Friday, B.C. lawyer John Conroy successfully obtained an injunction that would allow home grows to remain past April 1, the day federal law reforms are due to take effect.

Now, Conroy will spend 9-12 months preparing for a constitutional challenge of the measures, but he conceded in an interview with Metro Wednesday that associated costs could be steep.

"We'll have to call witnesses and bring in witnesses and all those sorts of things," he said.

But Fagin, who suffers from chronic pain and relies on medicinal marijuana when related ailments flare up, said



Keith Fagin, Calgary 420 organizer and medicinal marijuana user, inhales a strain called "AK-47" from his vaporizer. The weed he was ingesting Wednesday came from the plant seen framing his face. JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

his group hopes to net up to \$10,000 during celebrations planned for April 19 and 20. Attendees will kick off the festivities with a comedy event that comes complete with a "cannabis-only vapour lounge" and a raffle offering up vaporizers and finely detailed glass art. The following day, they will

gather at city hall to observe a minute of silence in remembrance of the victims of prohibition and the drug war.

Conroy, meanwhile, said his law office's phone and email accounts have been buzzing for months, as marijuana supporters and users from across Canada volunteer their time. Still,

he fears an underlying stigma remains about the drug and its benefits.

"People don't understand how serious this is for some medical patients," he said. "I think a lot of people still think it's just about some people who want to get high and feel better." JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO

Redford's final travel bill of \$131K includes English retreat



Former premier Alison Redford, who resigned last week, is facing renewed criticism for a travel tab to India and Switzerland. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

The bill for Alison Redford's final trip as premier of Alberta has come in at \$131,000 — and includes taxpayer-funded flights to London for a private weekend getaway.

Overall costs for the two-week January trip were released Wednesday by the International and Intergovernmental Relations Department. Itemized receipts are to be posted online next month.

The trade mission and networking trip to India and Switzerland included a stopover for private time in London that was

not on the original itinerary.

Redford had planned to visit Canadian troops in Afghanistan for two days, but that was cancelled due to a flare-up of violence. Instead, Redford, her chief of staff Farouk Adatia and Redford aide Brad Stables flew to London for the weekend at taxpayer expense, said Derek Cummings, press secretary for the department.

He said the flight costs were considered government business because Redford was still in the middle of her trip and her travel plans changed due to

\$11K over

The final bill of \$131,000 is \$11,000 more than budgeted due to unexpected hosting expenses, said Cummings.

events beyond her control.

"They wouldn't have flown home (at that time)."

All other expenses for London were covered by the participants personally, Cummings said.

NDP critic Rachel Notley

suggested Redford could have thought of taxpayers first and stayed in India a couple more days when the Afghanistan trip changed.

"There's no rationale for the citizens of Alberta to be paying for a shopping spree in London," said Notley.

Redford quit as premier last week amid escalating revelations of lavish spending on herself and her inner circle, including a \$45,000 trip to Nelson Mandela's funeral and government plane trips for her daughter's friends. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Jon Lord sizes up Naheed Nenshi, his rival in Calgary's 2013 mayoral race, during a debate last fall. METRO FILE

Former Calgary alderman, MLA Jon Lord dead at age 57

Community crusader.
Lord remembered fondly by opponent, ally, wife

 **JEREMY NOLAIS**
jeremy.nola@metronews.ca

Jon Lord spent part of his final days polishing an article on how to improve snow-removal practices in Calgary.

It was emblematic of his enduring commitment to the community.

"He researched everything before he would do anything ... he'd figured out how to remove snow for less money and for all of Calgary," said his wife Sheryl Guillaume.

The 57-year-old, who finished second to Mayor Naheed Nenshi in last October's munici-

pal election, died suddenly of a heart attack Tuesday night.

He and Guillaume were getting ready for bed at the time after spending the evening watching television.

"There was no warning," she said. "It was just done. That was it, it was over."

Guillaume said her husband's character "came from the heart," recalling fond memories of him still fielding constituent calls long after ending his run as Ward 8 alderman.

"They call and say, 'Alderman Lord, can you help us?'" she said. "I'd look at him and say 'Geez, you've been off the payroll for 20 years.'"

Nenshi said he was shocked and saddened to hear of Lord's passing.

"Jon was a community-builder in the truest sense ..." the mayor said in a statement.

Marda Loop mainstay

Lord owned the popular Casablanca Video store in Marda Loop.

- Details of a public funeral are to be announced in the next few days.

"His legacy — in Alberta, Calgary, and especially Marda Loop — cannot be overstated. As a business owner, alderman, and MLA, he was a tireless advocate on many issues ..."

Recently, Lord had signed on as a campaign co-chair for friend Craig Chandler, who's bidding to be the new MLA for Calgary-Shaw.

"He's honest, caring and put Calgary first," said Chandler.

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Oilsands giant. Suncor loses bid to test workers for alcohol, drugs

Oilsands giant Suncor Energy has lost another battle in its attempt to randomly test thousands of union workers in northern Alberta for drugs and alcohol.

A court-ordered arbitration panel has sided with the union Unifor that represents 3,600 workers in the Fort McMurray area and which had filed a grievance against the policy.

The majority of panel members ruled there is no evidence that there is an out-

of-control drinking or drug culture at Suncor.

The panel said the random testing policy is an unreasonable exercise of Suncor's management rights.

Suncor says it will ask the Alberta Court of Queen's Bench for a judicial review of the ruling.

The union says it will work with Suncor to improve workplace safety through education and prevention programs.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

\$100K in damage

Gas well shot up near Brooks

Police in Brooks are hunting for suspects after an irrigation building and a sour-gas well were shot with a high-powered rifle, causing an estimated \$100,000 in damage.

Both sites are located

along Silver Sage Road, on the outskirts of the southern Alberta town, according to RCMP.

Multiple shots were fired, causing extensive damage to an Eastern Irrigation District flow control building and a Cenovus sour gas well site," police said in a release.

The shootings happened sometime in the past seven weeks, police figure. METRO

Advertising run amok. Half-a-million viewers and counting for piece based on poem



JEREMY NOLAI

jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Start with video footage of a baby in a bear suit, lab beakers and a bullet train.

Mix in an upbeat score, gravel-voiced narrator and sprinkle in text overlays of buzzwords like "paradigms" and "go forwardness."

Finally, cobble together clips of folks representing diverse races, ages and lifestyles.

Voila! You've got yourself a generic brand video.

At least that's according to the folks at Calgary-based stock footage provider Dissolve, who attempted to playfully jab at the ad-

vertising flubs committed by countless organizations without an actual product such as a car to advertise.

Creative director Sheldon Popiel, who developed the video alongside colleague Drew Ng, conceded some of Dissolve's clients may even be guilty of branding crimes the video pokes fun at.

"It was just to get into the minds of the agencies and the film production houses ... we get their challenges when it comes to producing things like this but, yeah, up the game a little bit," he said.

Dissolve's video, published this week, quickly received international attention and, as of Wednesday, had already been viewed nearly 500,000 times on YouTube and Vimeo.

The video is a visual representation of a satirical poem written by Kendra Eash, Popiel explained. It aims to portray half-hearted attempts by corporations to



This image from the "generic brand video" created by Calgary-based Dissolve pokes fun at an attempt by your average advertising corporation to show they do business in the U.S. SCREEN GRAB

cover off their commitment to people, the environment, the global economy and much more in a segment unlikely to span longer than two minutes.

Video

To see the "generic brand video," head to metronews.ca

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Arctic talks continue despite rocky relations with Russia

Diplomacy. International politicians concerned about how country's actions in Ukraine may affect the situation up north

Canada may be upset at Russia over Ukraine, but conversations with the country continue over the Arctic.

Government officials confirm that a Russian delegation is attending a meeting in Yellowknife this week held by the Arctic Council, an eight-member group of countries that ring the North. All members are attending, even though the council includes some of Russia's harshest critics, such as Canada and the United States.

"The prime minister has

instructed Canadian officials to review all bilateral interactions with Russia," said Amanda Gordon, spokeswoman for Environment Minister Leona Aglukkaq, the current head of the council.

"For the moment, however, Arctic Council work does continue as planned."

The Yellowknife meeting began Tuesday and continues until Thursday. The delegations are being led by bureaucrats, not politicians, and are all closed to the media.

It's the second time senior Arctic officials have met since Canada assumed its two-year chairmanship of the council.

In Europe this week, Harper questioned the mentality of the Russian government, which has said Canada has no right to speak out against Russia's moves against Ukraine. Some government departments have

already reduced their contact with Russia.

Speaking Tuesday in Washington, D.C., Transport Minister Lisa Raitt said her department is one of them.

"In my own portfolio we have looked at where there are points of contact, and we have stopped those points of contact," she said. "We are taking this very seriously, and it goes through the entire government."

Most of the Arctic Council's work involves the collection and sharing of scientific, environmental and social information between member countries and six aboriginal groups that have permanent observer status. The council has negotiated binding agreements that include deals on Arctic search and rescue and the prevention of oil spills.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Poland warns against Putin

Ukrainian tanks are transported from their base in Perevalnoe, outside Simferopol, Crimea, Wednesday. Poland's ambassador to Canada is warning the security and certainty of the international post-Cold War era ended with Russia's recent annexation of Crimea and that NATO should have a more defined presence in eastern Europe.

PAVEL GOLOVKIN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The truth is out there

Dwarf planet found in 'celestial wasteland'

Peering into the far reaches of the solar system, astronomers have spied a frozen pink world 12 billion kilometres from the sun.

It's the second such object to be discovered in a region of space beyond Pluto long considered a celestial wasteland. Until now, the lone known resident in this part of the solar system was an oddball dwarf planet spotted in 2003 named Sedna after the mythological Inuit goddess who created the sea creatures of the Arctic.

The new object, 2012 VP113, was tracked using a new camera on a ground telescope in Chile.

Like Sedna, VP is also a dwarf planet. It's jokingly nicknamed Biden after Vice-President Joe Biden because of the object's initials.

It measures about 450 kilometres across. By contrast, Earth is about 12,713 kilometres across.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Critics speak

They threw out our work, say Liberals

Despite Prime Minister Stephen Harper's claim that his First Nations education bill is "historic" and "long overdue," Carolyn Bennett remembers when the Liberal Party made a similar attempt years ago.

The aboriginal affairs critic and Toronto MP pointed to the 2005 Kelowna Accord, a broad-sweeping piece of legislation that sought to close the gap between First Nations communities and the rest of Canadian society.

It was scrapped in 2007

in a vote after the Conservatives were elected.

"The fact that the Kelowna Accord was thrown out was very upsetting," Bennett told Metro. "The Liberals are serious about this and want to carry on the work that was begun with Kelowna."

Bennett also had few kind words for how the current government formulated its First Nations education bill. She called the initial attempt, which was introduced in November and is now undergoing revision, a complete disaster.

"There needs to be an

understanding that bottom-up is the only way this will work," she said. "More paternalism and more tablets coming down from on high just serves to irritate people such that they can't even hear what you're saying."

While Bennett conceded that Harper's promise of \$1.9 billion for on-reserve education

over seven years is comparable to former Liberal Prime Minister Paul Martin's promise of \$1.7 billion over five years, she focused her criticism on how each administration arrived at the conclusion.

"The Kelowna Accord) started with hundreds of people in a room, deciding what will be the priorities and then dividing up into working groups and 18 months later coming up with a real plan with the dollars attached," she explained.

By contrast, she said, the Conservatives have imposed their views without proper consultation and have delayed the injection of funds into the system.

"We found out when the budget was tabled those monies won't fall until next year," she said. "So in some ways it was one step forward and two steps back."

However, Bennett added there is some evidence the Conservatives have been listening and eagerly awaits the release of the newly drafted document.

"This is about fixing the greatest social injustice in Canada," she said.

JACOB MORGAN/METRO IN SASKATOON



Toronto MP and Liberal critic for aboriginal affairs Carolyn Bennett CONTRIBUTED

Chance

Upheaval is coming for First Nations schools. The federal government is planning to invest nearly \$2 billion into the neglected system and give communities more control over their own education. Metro travelled to two on-reserve schools to document their condition, the details of the plan and why many people say the proposed changes may be their kids' last chance.

The First Nations Control of First Nations

Education Act. Metro tracks down answers to the big questions about the government's solution



JACOB MORGAN
Metro in Saskatoon

How much will it cost?

That's the main question. Prime Minister Stephen Harper has committed a total of \$1.9 billion. This includes \$1.25 billion to run the system beginning in 2016 and increasing 4.5 per cent annually, \$500 million for infrastructure over seven years beginning in 2015 as well as \$160 million for transitional costs over four years beginning in 2015.

Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, tells Metro the 4.5 per cent escalator is a step in the right direction.

"We've been advocating for years to break the two per cent cap," said Atleo, referring to the limit placed on education funding increases in the '90s, which doesn't adequately account for inflation and population growth.

What will curriculum look like at on-reserve schools?

One of the prime minister's catchphrases is "a comparable system." The goal is to create First Nations curriculums and high school diploma qualifications that parallel those offered in non-aboriginal schools.

In addition, the government has promised to con-

tinue consulting with indigenous communities — after its original draft proposal was met with condemnation last fall — to incorporate language and cultural programs that reflect the unique heritage of all 633 First Nations across the country.

"We said we needed resour-



Shawn Atleo, national chief of the Assembly of First Nations
THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

ces for language and culture, (and) they've identified that they put that in that

"The overriding goal of the legislation is better outcomes for First Nation students. First Nations and the Government of Canada agree that this is best achieved through First Nations control."
— Government of Canada website

\$1.9-billion budget announcement that they made," said Atleo.

How will the new act change control of First Nations education?

Until now the Indian Act

has governed First Nations education. Since the end of the residential school era, Ottawa has directly administered the system.

The new bill will create First Nations education authorities, which will function similarly to school boards in the provincial system. Authorities will govern schools on a local level and ensure they meet national and provincial standards.

Bernard Valcourt, minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development, tells Metro that First Nations communities will appoint their own authorities, which can represent an area or a single school.

"I don't want to control education," said Valcourt. "I want First Nations to control education and First Nations will have options."

Will there be accountability?

The First Nations education authorities will oversee administrators and require annual reports. The regular reporting is designed to ensure teachers are certified and standards are met.

Atleo said accountability is a two-way street and both sides are responsible.

"They moved away from requiring or suggesting ministerial oversight," he said. "Now we're talking about reciprocal accountability."

Valcourt added that First Nations

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to act

education systems "will have to be accountable to their community, to the parents, to the kids and not to the federal government."

Who opposes this?

There are numerous groups across Canada opposing the bill. One example is the Onion Lake Cree Nation in the Treaty No. 6 Territory.

Diana Steinhauer holds a PhD degree in indigenous knowledge from the Blue Quills First Nations College and works in governance at Onion Lake. Her official title is *ka-nikanapistahk*, which she says is Cree for "those who can't speak for themselves, and it refers to the ones who aren't here yet: the animals, the plants, the birds."

Steinhauer explained that Onion Lake rejects the education act and any form of legislation that impedes on their sovereignty.

"We have our inherent jurisdiction over education and we're not going to relinquish it," she said.

The government is not in a position to hand over control, said Steinhauer, because treaty rights holders should already have that power.

"It's not their jurisdiction to be telling us what to do," she said.

She added that the AFN doesn't speak for Onion Lake, as "it's not an inherent rights holder, it's an organization developed and funded by the government."



"The legislation will require that First Nation schools ... award widely recognized diplomas or certificates. These requirements do not currently exist."

— Government of Canada website

On the web



5 Dec 2005, Term Kelowna Accord

...

2006

2007

3

1 Blue dot. A sign of defiance

Find out how a little blue sticker became a symbol of protest for opponents of the act. **CHRISTI BELCOURT/TWITTER**

2 Youth. Beyond the politics

Head over to metronews.ca to see what attendees at the Assembly of First Nations Youth Summit had to say about their learning experiences.

3 Timeline. Scrapped attempt

Go online to see an interactive timeline of the quashed Kelowna Accord and hear from the national co-chair of the Liberals' Aboriginal Peoples' Commission.



Critics speak

Too much we don't know, says NDP



MORGAN MODJESKI

Metro in Saskatoon

The aboriginal affairs critic for Canada's opposition party has "major concerns" about the federal government's plan to improve First Nations education.

Announced back in February, the First Nations Control of First Nations Education Act would inject more than \$1.9 billion in additional funding to address financial shortfall for on-reserve education, starting in 2015.

But critics of the bill have questions on how — and when — the act will be implemented.

"We actually haven't seen any legislation at this point, and what my concern is, is that the process of how this is going to be drafted is unclear," said Jean Crowder, aboriginal affairs critic for the New Democratic Party.

"From our perspective, you can't draft this legislation without having First Nations at the table," she said.

Although the federal government held eight face-to-face consultations, 54 informational briefings and

received 631 responses to an online survey while drafting the original First Nations Education Act, it was widely rejected.

And with the federal government's recent announcement having little information on how First Nations will be consulted, Crowder said it's hard to know what its

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together."

but judging by the emails and letters I'm getting in my office, nobody's being fooled," she said.

"People recognize the money doesn't flow until after a federal election, and given past history, just because people say one thing before an election doesn't mean they're going to do the same thing after."

"I think the timing is very suspicious," she said.

But Bernard Valcourt, federal minister of Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, says the act has nothing to do with the upcoming election.

"I dismiss these charges ... (of) pure political partisanship on (the) part of the people who would rather not have us in government."

"A lot of work has been done. This has been evaluated and looked at by First Nations all across Canada. We've received their views, we've got the AFN resolution, we've got the open letter of the national chief and we have identified a way forward."



Jean Crowder, NDP critic for aboriginal affairs CONTRIBUTED

outcome will be.

"I don't know if there's two people in a closed room putting it together, whether it's going to have regional representation from across the country," she said.

While Crowder feels the government's acknowledgement of the funding gap is a step in the right direction,

Derailed train operator admits she 'dozed off'

Not the first time.

Under erratic schedule, she'd fallen asleep once in February, too

The operator of a Chicago commuter train that crashed at O'Hare International Airport admitted she "dozed off" before the accident, waking only when the train jumped off the tracks and climbed an escalator, a federal official said Wednesday.

National Transportation Safety Board investigator Ted Turpin said the woman had been working as an operator for about two months and acknowledged she'd previously fallen asleep on the job in February, when her train partially missed a station.

"She did admit that she dozed off prior to entering the station," he said during a briefing Wednesday. "She



A derailed Chicago Transit Authority train car rests on an escalator at the O'Hare Airport station, Monday, in Chicago. The train plowed across a platform and scaled the escalator at the station. ANDREW A. NELLES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

did not awake until the train hit."

He said the woman, who

was co-operating with the investigation, often worked an erratic schedule, filling

in for other Chicago Transit Authority employees.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S.-Russia mission. Soyuz delays docking, Ukraine crisis not related

A software glitch on a Russian spacecraft heading to the International Space Station has delayed the arrival of three astronauts, including an American. NASA said the crew was in no danger, and the U.S.-Russia space partnership was strong despite tensions over Ukraine.

The Soyuz spacecraft carrying Russians Alexander Skvortsov and Oleg Artemyev and NASA's Steve Swanson blasted off successfully early Wednesday and was scheduled to dock six hours later. But because of the glitch, the arrival was pushed back until late Thursday.

Since the 2011 retirement of the U.S. space shuttle fleet, NASA has depended on the Russian spacecraft to ferry crews to the orbiting outpost and is paying Russia nearly \$71 million per seat. This cooperation has continued despite tensions over Russia's annexation of Crimea and U.S. calls for harsher sanctions on Russia.

NASA Administrator



Soyuz astronauts boarding on Wednesday. JOEL KOWSKY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charles Bolden repeatedly has said that the conflict in Ukraine would have no effect on the U.S.-Russian partnership. As recently as Tuesday he reiterated on his blog that while NASA continues to cooperate successfully with Russia, it wants to get its own capacity to launch crews as quickly as possible.

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Conservative MP Steven Fletcher speaks with the media as he leaves caucus on Parliament Hill on Wednesday.
ADRIAN WYLD/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Tory MP preps euthanasia bill

Former cabinet minister. Quadriplegic Steven Fletcher to table assisted-suicide proposal against government policy

Quoted

"I'm not in any hurry to reopen that issue."

Justice Minister Peter MacKay, expressing his disinterest in debating assisted suicide in the House of Commons.

circumstances. The second would set up a commission to monitor the system.

"There will be a set of statutory requirements that must be met before the act of physician-assisted death can happen," Fletcher said Wednesday before a Conservative caucus meeting.

He wouldn't go into specific details, saying that will have to wait until after the bills are introduced in the House of Commons on Thursday.

The legislation is likely to face a tough time in the Commons, which last looked at the issue in 2010 and voted against

it by a wide margin.

Justice Minister Peter MacKay said he has no interest in starting that debate again.

The Supreme Court of Canada, which in 1993 narrowly ruled against Sue Rodriguez in her much-debated bid for assisted suicide, has agreed to hear another British Columbia right-to-die case this spring. Rodriguez, who had amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or Lou Gehrig's disease, took her own life in 1994 with the help of an anonymous doctor.

"When I reflect back on the Sue Rodriguez case, I really felt that she should have been able to legally receive what was ultimately done," Fletcher said.

He also said polls suggest Canadians in general support the idea. A Quebec bill on assisted suicide died three weeks ago when the provincial election was called. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

A former Conservative cabinet minister who was left paralyzed from the neck down by a 1996 car crash plans to introduce two private member's bills which would allow assisted suicide in some cases.

Steven Fletcher, a Manitoba MP who was dropped from the federal cabinet last summer, is going against government policy with his legislation.

One of Fletcher's two bills would, if passed, allow doctors to help people end their lives under certain restricted cir-

Police, mental health leaders discuss how to prevent tragedies

It's a national conversation that's finally taking place.

Amid growing concern over how police deal with some of society's most vulnerable, law enforcement officials, those who live with mental illness and those who support them have gathered to discuss how to avert tragedies during crises.

That dialogue, deemed the first of its kind, comes at a time when statistics suggest one in

five Canadians experience a mental health illness in any given year.

"It's a major step forward and a very bold step forward," said Louise Bradley, CEO of the Mental Health Commission of Canada, host of the conference in Toronto with the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police.

One of the key issues police and mental health advocates have to grapple with is

the lack of national standards: there isn't a country-wide training curriculum for officers on how to deal with the mentally ill, nor is there comprehensive data collected on the issue.

Vancouver Police Chief Jim Chu, who's also president of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police, says "police are increasingly becoming the mental health response agency of first resort." **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



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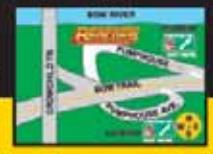
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Grain. Legislation tabled by Ottawa aims to clear transportation backlog

The federal government has tabled legislation aimed at increasing the movement of grain that has been left sitting in bins across the Prairies due to a transportation bottleneck.

The legislation proposes the Canadian Grain Commission regulate how much a grain company will pay to a farmer if the company doesn't meet delivery dates set out in a contract.

It also aims to extend what are called inter-switching limits from 30 kilometres to 160 kilometres in Alberta, Manitoba and Saskatchewan.

Most grain elevators on the Prairies are only served by one railway and expanding inter-switching would allow more service by more rail companies.

A national priority

NDP Leader Thomas Mulcair has said the prime minister has to make unclogging the backlog of grain a national priority or lose Canada's place in the world market.

- Mulcair says countries like Japan are going to start looking to the United States since Canada doesn't seem to be able to get its grain to port.

Another change would enshrine a previous government order for Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways to move a minimum amount of grain or face a penalty of up to \$100,000 a day. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Chow to Ford: 'It's time to take down the circus tent'

Toronto. Scandal-plagued mayor accused of having made the city 'an international embarrassment' during live televised debate

Toronto's scandal-plagued mayor held his own against several concerted attacks during Wednesday's first televised mayoral debate as he seeks to stay in office come October.

Rob Ford, who frequently rolled his eyes, stared at the ceiling and flashed grins at the audience, defended his fiscal record as he shot back at the candidates vying to replace him.

"Four years ago, I was elected to stop the gravy train," Ford said, thumping a familiar drum. "I have stopped the gravy train."

Former NDP MP Olivia Chow was quick to shoot him down: "It's time for you to go because your gravy train has turned into a train wreck," Chow said. "You need to pack up that nonsense you're talking about."

Chow was the first candidate to allude directly to, but not mention, Ford's well-known problems — including smoking crack and spouting obscenities on live TV — that have made him talk-show fodder and made him a recognizable name around the world.

Ford was frequently content to let the others debate among themselves, but didn't hesitate to jump in.

Former provincial PC party leader John Tory said Ford had "run out of gas" given



Toronto Mayor Rob Ford, right, laughs next to David Soknacki as they take part in a mayoral debate in Toronto Wednesday.

NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Up for debate

"We've had it with the scandals and lack of truth. It's time to go because you're embarrassing our city."

Toronto mayoral candidate Olivia Chow, to Rob Ford

his inability to get anything through a council that has stripped him of most of his powers. He accused the mayor

of letting taxpayers down and ruining the city's reputation.

Mostly, though, it was Chow and Ford who went at

each other during the two-hour debate. "It's time to take down the circus tent at city hall," Chow said, saying the mayor had made Toronto "an international embarrassment."

Toronto voters will get the chance to choose whether Ford remains in office or will be replaced on Oct. 27.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Director of Copenhagen Zoo, Steffen Straede, stands in front of two lionesses. POLFOTO, JENS DRESLING/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Danish zoo defends killing four of its lions

Copenhagen Zoo. This cull has put the zoo on the defensive again, a month after it killed a healthy giraffe

A Danish zoo on Wednesday defended its decision to kill two aging lions and two cubs, citing the risk of inbreeding and the arrival of a new male. This week's cull has put the Copenhagen Zoo on the defensive again, a month after it infuriated animal rights activists by killing a healthy

giraffe, dissecting it in public and feeding it to the lions.

In a statement, the zoo said it had to put down the lions to make room for the new, three-year-old male, saying it wouldn't have been accepted by the pride if the older male, 16, were still around.

“Furthermore we couldn't risk that the male lion mated with the old female as she was too old to be mated with again due to the fact that she would have difficulties with birth and parental care of another litter,” the zoo said.

The zoo said the cubs

Zoo as tough as nature

Zoo officials hope the new male and two females born in 2012 will form the nucleus of a new pride.

- They said the culling “may seem harsh, but in nature is necessary to ensure a strong pride of lions...”

were put down because they couldn't fend for themselves and the male would likely kill them. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

122 objects spotted in ocean offer fresh lead

A French satellite scanning the Indian Ocean for remnants of a missing jetliner found a possible plane debris field containing 122 objects, a top Malaysian official said Wednesday, calling it “the most credible lead that we have.”

Defence Minister Hishammuddin Hussein said the objects were more than 2,500 kilometres southwest of Australia, in the area where a desperate, multinational hunt has been going on since other satellites detected possible jet debris.

Clouds obscured the latest satellite images, but dozens of objects could be seen in the gaps, ranging in length from one metre to 23 metres. Hishammuddin said some of them “appeared to be bright, possibly indicating solid materials.”

The images were taken Sunday. Various floating objects have been spotted by planes and satellites over the



Malaysian Remote Sensing Agency graphic shows objects in the south Indian Ocean. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Search now size of Alaska

Malaysia announced Monday that a mathematical analysis of the final known satellite signals from the plane showed that it crashed in the sea, killing everyone on board.

- The new data greatly reduced the search zone, but it remains huge — an area estimated at 1.6-million square kilometres, about the size of Alaska.

- Recovering any part of the plane will be tough because of the sheer depth of the ocean — much of it between about 3,000-4,500 metres (10,000-15,000 feet) deep in the search area. The seas are also very rough and dangerous in the search area.

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BlackBerry in the BYOD era

Bring your own device.

As more staffers use personal phones to conduct business, the tech firm offers security

BlackBerry Ltd. has received

certification for U.S. government employees to use its Secure Work Space enterprise software on iPhones and devices that use the Android operating system.

The technology is part of products that became available through the rollout of its BlackBerry 10 operating sys-

tem.

The Waterloo, Ont.-based company says the software helps government and business employees use mobile devices of their choice with lower security risks.

The certification will give security-conscious organizations, like U.S. and Canadian

government agencies, the ability to use software which separates sensitive corporate data from personal content on a single mobile device.

More technology companies have been chasing the lucrative business market as BlackBerry's popularity waned.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute



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Can't recall passwords? Use your voice instead

With passwords and PINs increasingly being targeted by hackers, speaking could become a new method to access secure accounts.

Voice biometrics — technology that knows who you are based on your voice characteristics — is already being used by banks and telecom companies globally for better security, says Brett Beranek of software company Nuance Communications.

"Our voices are unique to us, just like our DNA or our fingerprints or our iris," says Beranek, solutions marketing manager at U.S.-based Nuance's Montreal office.

Beranek says one of the first ways consumers will likely be exposed to voice biometrics is through mobile apps for banking.

"Typing in an alpha-numeric password to access your bank app is a pain, to say the least," he says.

"Saying something like, 'My voice, my password' just makes a lot of sense."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Saga of the sweet, then sour stock debut

Characters of the King Digital Entertainment game Candy Crush Saga walk the trading floor of the New York Stock Exchange, before the company's IPO, Wednesday. The festive move didn't last. King's stock priced at \$22.50 US on Tuesday, valuing the company at \$7.1 billion, but it opened on Wednesday at \$20.50, down almost nine per cent. Its shares lost more ground by the day's close, falling more than 15 per cent. King Digital Entertainment PLC had \$1.88 billion in revenue last year. That's more than 10 times its 2012 revenue of \$164.4 million. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Nissan recalls vehicles to fix airbag software

Nissan is recalling about 60,000 cars, SUVs and minivans in Canada because the front passenger's airbags may not inflate in a crash.

The announcement is part of a broader recall of just over 1 million cars, SUVs and minivans across North America by the automaker. It's the company's second recall to fix the same problem.

The recall affects the Altima midsize car, Leaf electric car, Pathfinder SUV and Sentra compact models from the 2013 and 2014 model years, as well as the NV200 Taxi van and In-

finiti JX35 SUV from 2013.

Also covered are the Infiniti QX60 and Q50 SUVs from 2014.

The recall affects almost 990,000 vehicles in the U.S. and small numbers in other countries, spokesman Steve Yeager said in an email.

In documents filed with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Nissan says the vehicles' computer software may not detect an adult in the passenger seat. If that happens, the airbags won't inflate.

Nissan will notify owners and dealers will update the

software for free. The recall is expected to start in mid-April.

Most of the vehicles were recalled in February of last year for a similar problem. Dealers replaced seat sensors, but Nissan said it continued to get consumer complaints and warranty claims in vehicles that had been repaired.

Front passenger seats have sensors that determine the passenger's weight and turn off airbags if a child is on board. The malfunctioning sensors can turn the air bags off even if an adult is in the seat.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

DAILY CHALLENGES OF LIVING WITH CANCER

INCLUDING ACCESS TO NEW TREATMENTS

As Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month draws to a close, relatively little attention has been paid to the thousands of Canadians who are living with advanced colon cancer.

Although these patients add their voices as advocates of screening and primary prevention, they are also faced with the daily challenges of obtaining access to new drugs to treat their disease and manage their symptoms. Timely access to these therapies can greatly affect the quality of life and a patient's ability to prolong it.

"I speak to patients with very advanced cancer daily and I believe there is a false perception that these individuals are always bedridden and incredibly sick," says Barry D. Stein, president of the Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada (CCAC). "In many cases today, if you were to meet someone with advanced colon cancer, you might not even know they were ill."

These patients want to extend their lives and maximize the quality of time they will have with their family and friends. There has been tremendous

progress in developing such treatments but there are issues around accessing them. Access also varies across Canada.

The provincial and territorial ministries of health formed the pan-Canadian Oncology Drug Review (pCODR) group in 2010 to ensure a balanced review of newly approved cancer treatments by asking oncology specialists and impartial patient representatives to make recommendations to provincial formularies with regard to the funding of new oncology drugs.

"In principal, pCODR is a good thing," Stein says. "The challenge is that it appears too much emphasis is being placed on economics and not enough on the personal impact of new medicines. Negative decisions on funding greatly impact patients with advanced disease who still have time to live, but are being denied public funding for new and effective treatment options."

"I continue to manage my cancer on a daily basis and I am a huge proponent of awareness to prevent cancer through screening, but I see a huge gap when it comes to public awareness about lack of



TYLER OLSON/SHUTTERSTOCK

access to new treatment options," says Stephen Dunn of Toronto. "I know for myself and other patients in a similar situation we simply cannot accept decisions about life-extending treatments based purely on economics."

The Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada is taking the lead to escalate the

"access" discussion with Canadians so they understand the nuances of funding new drugs and how important public funding is to patients with advanced cancer.

For more information on the ongoing access issue or to get involved, visit colorectal-cancer.ca.

BE YOUR OWN ADVOCATE AND MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD



Tina Radoslav

CONTRIBUTED

You would never know by seeing her at the gym during her daily workout, but Tina Radoslav of Stoney Creek, is living with metastatic colon cancer.

An active, optimistic single mother of three, she is not the image of a patient with advanced cancer most Canadians call to mind.

Five and a half years ago, Radoslav was diagnosed with Stage 4, or metastatic, colon cancer. That day changed everything in her life.

"I was leaving the doctor's office with my mom and saying to her ... 'I can't do this.' Mom replied, 'You can do this, you will do this!'"

An advanced cancer diagnosis has presented challenges for Radoslav beyond her health. Her husband of 25 years left their marriage 18 months into her cancer journey. Her employer let Radoslav go because it was not prepared

Colorectal Cancer Association of Canada

to deal with her diagnosis and the time off she would need for treatments. Her life has changed, but, in her own words, she is "still alive."

"Be your own advocate," Radoslav tells newly diagnosed patients.

She knows this is hard when they are also coming to terms with their diagnoses, but it is essential.

"You are in the battle of your lifetime. Our health-care system is great if you are dealing with a common illness. It doesn't work as well when you are dealing with an advanced form of cancer.

"Metastatic cancer is not a one-

size-fits-all disease. Some options stop working or don't work as well on one patient as they do on another. We suffer when we cannot access all the treatments and protocols that can benefit us. Sometimes it feels as if patients living with cancer are just looked upon as an economic burden to the system. I strongly believe you cannot put a price tag on a life and I am sure my children would agree."

As Colon Cancer Awareness month comes to a close, Radoslav wants Canadians newly diagnosed with advanced disease to get the support they need. She wants them to make their voices heard.

"Make sure you are aware of the treatment options possible. Talk to your health-care team. Advocate to the government to make new treatments available. I have had to fight for treatments, and everyday I am thankful to be here."

I SURRENDER, MOTHER NATURE

OK, winter, I give up.

Forget discontent. This is the winter of our disbelief.

Mother Nature went from her usual fickle and frigid self to full-on cruel and cold-hearted. Bing Crosby's White Christmas gave way long ago to Game of Thrones' Winter Without End. Jack Frost bit my nose off and spat it in my face.

We were once in a snow globe, but now we're trapped Under the Dome, scratching at the glass and screaming for anyone to let us out.

As I write this, the Maritimes is being hit with the sort of storm that usually gives rise to over-the-top, two-word blends like polar vortex, frostquake or snowpocalypse. By the time you read this, the blizzard may well be known as a Sleet Scream, The Parthenon Freeze or Icetrocity 2014.

Meanwhile, in Toronto, it's been cold for so long that my friends and I are deeply excited that the forecast for the



HE SAYS

John Mazerolle

metronews.ca

week includes such mercies as 10 degrees and rainy, which will give us at least one day to dream that we're Vancouverites adrift in a warmish sea of cappuccinos and cannabis.

(This column is least relevant for Vancouver residents, but just replace the word "snow" with "rain," the word "cold" with "drab" and the words "We're all in this together" with "Get bent.")

The predicted improvement from insufferable weather to unpleasant weather had given me hope that things were improving, but then I saw a new headline on Wednesday: "WINTER-LIKE WEATHER TO CONTINUE UNTIL AT LEAST MID-APRIL."

It's funny how your eyes play tricks on you, because when I first glanced at the headline I read it as "LEAP FROM THE BUILDING IMMEDIATELY." I thought about it, but figured the snow would probably break my fall anyway.

Which leads me back to my original thought: I give up. I

have no more rage, no more despair to give. The tears only freeze on my face. The seven-day forecast has pushed me through the seven stages of grief and it's time to accept my frosty fate.

I accept that it's going to be winter forever. And I for one welcome our new, flakey overlords.

Why, winter year-round will be grand.

Patio weather will be any time we want, there'll be no annoying change of car tires, no suffering through another bus-stop simpleton asking, "Hot enough for ya?"

Hockey in June will make perfect sense, the cars-versus-bikes feud will end, and a balaclava will provide all the SPF protection you need.

No smog, no humidity, no insects. No summer love means no summer heartbreaks.

Endless winter will mean being comfortably numb, with smiles frozen on our faces.

I give up, winter. You win. I am yours, and you're all right.

A naysayer might claim I have Stockholm syndrome, but I checked. It's 14 and sunny there.

Uncle, Mother Nature. Uncle.

ZOOM

10,000-calorie, beastly burger

Substantial sandwich inspired by a cartoon

The 10,000-calorie whopper, dubbed the Ulti-Meatum, was cooked up by restaurant owners Corinne and John Clarkson after seeing the meat feast on Cartoon Network's *The Regular Show*.

The monster meal includes five pounds (2.2 kilograms) of meat and a cheeseburger within a burger just like in the children's animation. The owners of the Mister Eaters fish and chips restaurant in Preston, England, are offering up a man-versus-food challenge where daring punters can eat for free if they can finish the burger in one sitting. **METRO**

Q & A with John Clarkson, one of the creators

Special plate needed to hold it

Was this as much a personal challenge as anything else?

Yeah, I enjoy it and it's a bit of fun. I'm a butcher by trade and I'm familiar with meat and how it sticks together, so I thought I'll have a go. We've done the world's biggest deep-fried Ferrero Rocher at 11 pounds (five kilograms) in weight and that went global, so I thought I could do the same with this. It gets people talking; the shop's been overwhelmed.

Did you have any problems building the burger?

We had three or four flops. I had to design a plate with pins that are the same height as the burger, so that it doesn't topple over. The thing with my burger is that it's not messy when you cut it open — you get a really nice cross-section as you can see in the picture.



TWITTER:@TORGANDELLIOTT

Clickbait



ANDREW FIFIELD

andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

The Oculus Rift VR helmet's splashy debut on the tech conference circuit helped make it one of the most successful Kickstarters of all time, eventually leading to Facebook's \$2B purchase of Oculus on Tuesday. So it looks like VR is about ready to become a thing, and these movies available on Netflix will provide a nice glimpse of the nightmarish future it will usher in.



The Oculus Rift virtual reality headset THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

eXistenz:
Jennifer Jason Leigh and Jude Law star as a video game designer and her protégé who flee between virtual worlds while avoiding assassins determined to hunt them down in this sci-fi brain bender from David Cronenberg. It's truly weird and wonderful.

Strange Days:
A gem lying among the junk of mid-'90s cyber-paranoia flicks, the Kathryn Bigelow-directed *Strange Days* is the story of a former cop who stumbles



@metropicks asked: A US\$297 course called conscious uncoupling promises a happy breakup. Would you pay?

@Canucklehead_ca: Why pay to have the cow sent back to pasture when you can simply give up milk for free?

across a high-profile murder among his collection of virtual reality clips, wrapping him up in a manhunt across an L.A. that has disintegrated into a war zone as the calendar heads toward the year 2000.

Evolver:

Here is where we've decided into B-movie territory when an elite gamer gets a chance to play a live version of his favourite video game. Naturally, this leads to big, violent problems when he finds himself battling a ruthlessly efficient killer robot.

@prussell_pc: I have paid... far more. This program takes two to un-tango, and so wouldn't have worked for me.

@Anyazub: That's like four bottles of whiskey, cover charge and two rounds at the bar for me and two of my best friends.

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Wanderlust and coming home

Alex Brown Church.

Sea Wolf creator says it took living in Montreal and constantly touring to make him realize what he missed about California



BACKSTAGE
PASS

Lisa Wilton
calgary@metronews.ca

It's taken a few years, but Alex Brown Church can finally call Los Angeles home.

The mastermind behind sophisticated indie folk act Sea Wolf admits it took three years of living in Montreal and consistent touring to help him realize what he missed about the West Coast lifestyle.

"Los Angeles is a weird place," says Church, who grew up in the northern California college town of Berkeley.

"I've been here for a while now but I never really thought of it as home. Coming back here after being away made me appreciate it and finally let me think of it as being home."

Sea Wolf's 2012 album, Old World Romance, is a reflection of Church's time in Montreal and his return to California in 2010.

At first listen, it seems the album's prevalent themes are travel and wanderlust, particularly in the hauntingly beautiful single, Old Friend, and the rousing Dear Fellow Traveler. But Church says that wasn't



Los Angeles-based artist, Sea Wolf, a.k.a. Alex Brown Church, performs a solo acoustic set at the Commonwealth Bar this Saturday. CONTRIBUTED

his intention.

"I didn't set out to make it like that, but there are definitely concepts of travel that have certainly come up in songs and in people's writings about my songs," he says.

"I sort of grew up travelling ... and I travel a lot for tours. All that stuff finds its way into the songs. But it's not a preconceived thing or something I'm super aware of when I'm writing."

Church — who studied film at NYU before forming indie rock quintet, Irving, in 1998 — is currently on a short solo acoustic tour playing songs from Sea Wolf's three critically

acclaimed full-length albums.

He's also putting the finishing touches on a new CD to be released in early summer. Titled Songspells, the album was financed through Kickstarter. "It's going to be kind of an unofficial release," Church explains.

"I fulfilled my label contract and before I decide what label to put the next album out on, I thought it would be fun to do something fast and put it out ourselves.

"I wanted to do something a little more stripped down and go back to that place where it's a bit more experimental and anything goes."

Details + fun facts

- Sea Wolf plays an acoustic solo show at the Commonwealth Bar (733 - 10th Ave. S.W.) on Saturday. Tickets are \$12 in advance and can be purchased online through Seawolf.Zoobis.com or at the door. It's an early show and doors open at 7 p.m.
- Alex Brown Church is essentially Sea Wolf. He originally set out to form a band, but most of his musician friends were already busy with their own projects. He now works with a core group of musicians and writes all of the songs himself with a band in mind.
- You may have heard You're A Wolf from Sea Wolf's first full-length, Leaves in the River, in a GM car commercial. As well, Brown wrote the song, The Violet Hour, for the Twilight: New Moon soundtrack.



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The life and times of a Bomb Girl

For two seasons, actress Charlotte Hegele immersed herself in the life of Second World War munitions factory worker Kate Andrews on the series *Bomb Girls*.

While her character grew on the series — breaking away from her authoritarian father and dealing with rumours of her “unnatural” love for fellow munitions worker Betty — so too did Hegele’s knowledge of the period.

With the TV movie *Bomb Girls: Facing the Enemy* airing Thursday at 8 p.m. ET/PT on Global, we asked Hegele to tell us what she learned about the era in her role as Kate. **METRO**

‘Their stories
gave me
goosebumps.’

I was given the opportunity to meet the women from that era and hear first-hand their accounts of the Second World War.

From building bombs, to cracking German codes, to serving overseas, th did it all. Their stories gave me goosebumps.



Charlotte Hegele plays Kate Andrews in *Bomb Girls*. CONTRIBUTED

Women's roles
in war were
dangerous, too

Before working on *Bomb Girls* I never knew the crucial role Canadian women played during the Second World War.

In school I only ever learned about how men bravely fought on the front lines. But it was the women back home who made the ammunition those Canadian soldiers used to win the war.

It was a dangerous job that paved the way for later generations of women to work in an industrial setting. It was a hazardous workplace and those women stepped up to the task.

Movies, music
and fashion in
wartime

Working on *Bomb Girls*, I was immersed in 1940s culture.

I learned hit songs sung by Vera Lynn, Ella Fitzgerald and Billie Holiday. I watched movies like Alfred Hitchcock’s *Suspicion* and *Saboteur*.

Fashion was transformed by wartime rationing. Hemlines got shorter. Stocking seams were drawn up women’s legs to fake the real thing. Movie stars like Veronica Lake styled their hair into up-dos to encourage safe practices on factory production lines. The war changed everything.

It's all about
the girls

In the film and television industry there is an unwritten rule that promotes the idea that audiences would prefer to see stories centred around men rather than women.

Bomb Girls proves this wrong. On *Bomb Girls* I got to work with some of the most talented and passionate women in the business like Adrienne Mitchell, Janis Lundman, Anne Wheeler, Rachel Talalay, and of course Meg Tilly.

These women shaped me into being both a better performer and a stronger person. I can’t thank them enough.

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Selena Gomez ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

Selena, stop hitting repeat-peat-peat on that relationship: Parents

Selena Gomez's parents are reportedly gearing up for another intervention for the former Disney star, hoping a return trip to rehab and distance from on-again, off-again boyfriend Justin Bieber will get her back on the straight and narrow, according to *Life & Style Weekly*. Their last attempts to convince Gomez to seek help for anxiety and alleged substance abuse issues went well, with Gomez voluntarily checking into the Meadows treatment facility in Arizona.

— but she checked herself out two weeks later to rush to Bieber's side in the wake of his legal troubles. And she's been spotted with the troubled Canadian pop star regularly since then, most recently this past weekend in L.A. when she stopped by the Sunset Towers Hotel for a quick visit with Bieber. Sources tell the magazine that Gomez's parents want her to ditch Bieber for good and head back to Meadows to complete her six-week program.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

That's so tweet: Martin and Paltrow make peace with a painting



THE WORD

Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca

What should a sensitive GOOP-ified husband do to comfort his soon-to-be-ex-beloved in their time of conscious uncoupling? Put a bird on it, of course.

Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow are clearly making an effort to ensure that even their divorce is expensive and classy. Apparently Coldplay front man Martin even bought Paltrow a parting gift — an etching of a bird by Polish



artist Mila Fürstová, created as cover art for a Coldplay album, a source told the *Daily Mail*.

"The fighting is over now, there's no bitterness. They're actually going to have some fun," the source said.

There's the picture above. It's pretty cool and the sort of thing that Chris Martin and Gwyneth Paltrow would have in their living room.

It seems unfair that even their divorce is cooler than me. Or maybe not: Mila Fürstová's staff denies that Chris Martin bought one of her works "as a gift or for any other reason."



Twitter



@Pink

I'm hearing I've been hacked... I hope "I" didn't say something out of line. Can I always say I've been hacked now? When I do that?



@samantharonson

Just found a piece of cheese in my sleeve- in case you were wondering how this not smoking thing is going.



@solangeknowles

This damn taxi driver... This tweet sponsored by "Shade"



Judd Apatow and Lena Dunham

Apatow admits Girls could have been a lot more graphic

While Lena Dunham's hit HBO series *Girls* has often been criticized for how far it goes as far as sexual content, producer Judd Apatow reveals that apparently they've wanted to go even farther. "There have been things on *Girls* where HBO has said to us, 'If we put this on TV, we literally could

lose our license to broadcast,'" Apatow told a group of college students at an event in Los Angeles, according to the *New York Post*. "Let's just say it's something you see in adult film — elements of sexual intercourse. The high points of sexual intercourse." Maybe they can save that for the DVD.



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DRUG MART

Fashion, at its purest, is about telling stories. And the best storytellers are ones with tales to tell themselves. Here, we look at five individuals making waves in the Canadian fashion industry while weaving their own experiences into the mix.

SIGRID FORBERG
life@metronews.ca

Nana Osei

Designer, Bôhnen Eyeglasses Inc.

It was on a trip to Ghana in 2009 that Nana Osei saw an opportunity to combine his passions for social responsibility and fashion. While still in university in Ottawa, he created Bôhnen Eyeglasses Inc. The lightweight eyewear, made of reclaimed wood from West Africa and handcrafted in zero-waste facilities in Canada, have been drawing national attention. He's even appeared on the Dragon's Den. In the future, Osei hopes to bring the manufacturing to Africa as well. "People say there's nothing you can do about some things, but I say it always just starts small," says Osei.



5 who stitched their story into a style career

Lolitta Dandoy

Blogger, Fashion is Everywhere

With a mix of French and English posts on Fashion is Everywhere, Dandoy is the quintessential Montrealer. As a fashion journalist, she'd always wanted to start her own publication. Faced with a cancer diagnosis several years ago, while convalescing at home, she decided to go for it. Surrounded by so much creativity in Montreal, she tries to capture an awareness in her blog that the fashion community is in fact a community and has a greater meaning beyond superficial consumerism. "When somebody doesn't feel right in their skin, a lot of that can have to do with their appearance," says Dandoy. "It can change things you don't expect."



Julia Che

President, Lotus Leaf Communications

After studying fashion communications at Ryerson University, Che was working in public relations in Toronto when she noticed a friend, who is a talented jewelry designer, needed help promoting her product. Thus, Lotus Leaf Communications was born. They now represent big-name clients like 7 For All Mankind, Dr. Martens and Manitobah Mukluks. And while they've grown exponentially from that first client, at the end of the day, Che has used the company's success to give back to the community. "Agents of Change is a branch of Lotus Leaf," says Che. "Through it, we can use our expertise to increase awareness about social issues."



Meredith Wright

Filmmaker, Agency

After modelling for several years around the world, and being turned off by the way models were treated everywhere she went, Wright wanted to expose some of the darker sides of the industry. The end result was Agency, a documentary about young girls working for a modelling agency in Japan. Shot through Wright's own perspective, living in an apartment with fellow models in Osaka, Japan, the film aims to get people asking questions about the industry they normally wouldn't. "If I told someone that underage girls were working with no representation, they would be upset," says Wright. "So why is it OK when it's for fashion?"



Jigme Nehring

Founder, Mine & Yours

After living in Los Angeles, where the buy-sell-trade concept is common, Jigme Nehring decided to bring the model to Vancouver. Her resale shop, Mine & Yours is a place where women can purchase, sell or trade their gently used clothing. Nehring emphasizes the business's aspect of giving women the chance to recycle and find good homes for items that might otherwise collect dust in the back of their closets. The trouble with the fashion industry, Nehring explains, is the amount of waste it produces, which the shop aims to help negate as much as possible. "Mine & Yours helps reduce waste by extending the life of great pieces that are still in style and encouraging people to buy used clothing over new," says Nehring.



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Conversation-starter table toppers



DESIGN
CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca



Set the scene

The coffee table is the centre of attention in any living room. Not only does it offer a place to set a martini (or a slew of TV converters) but also tells guests a bit about you. Your interests can easily be seen in the types of books you read or the style of accessories on display. Here are some ideas to add caché.

Add sparkle with a shape-shifter

Chiselled and oblique-shaped golden tea-light holder changes its shape from all views. GlucksteinHome Sydney Large Tea-light Holder, \$18, TheBay.com



Work a little black crystal magic

Keep secrets stashed in a hand-polished soapstone container topped with black resin crystals. Eduardo Garza Crystal Box, \$70, WestElm.com

Spur them on with silver cactus

A unique decorative take on the classic cacti: Plants that shine on and require no watering. Metallico Barrel Cactus, \$16-19, UrbanBarn.com



Hurricane candle creates style storm

Hurricane pillar candle, holder of natural wood and glass, makes for mid-century style. Whole-Home Contemporary Glass Candle Holder, \$40, Sears.ca



A golden opportunity to raise the bar

The perfect amount of bling to top a coffee table book. Gold Bar Paperweight, \$65, thedesigncross.com

ALL PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED



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Keep new puppy and your home safe

You can teach a new dog old tricks.

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We bought food bowls, borrowed a crate and dusted off baby gates. But soon after we adopted our 13-week-old puppy, we discovered the house really wasn't ready.

Clove, a Labrador retriever mix, chewed wires we thought were hidden and investigated stairs we thought she'd ignore. She rummaged through deep plastic bins holding smelly shin guards and plucked snow-soaked mittens from our warm radiators. Within a week of her arrival, we had to block off power strips, reorganize our mudroom, devise a new plan for drying winter gear and gate the staircase.

"It's a lot like having an infant in the household," said Pamela Barlow, animal behaviour counsellor at the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals' adop-



A puppy rests by a gate that prevents her from entering a formal dining room where there are fragile items. SHIRLEY SALEMY MEYER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

tion centre in New York City.

Barlow says puppies need constant supervision and a safe environment to explore. She cautions against confining them so much that they don't get outside experiences. It is hard to go back and socialize puppies if owners miss the window of opportunity to do so.

Puppies are drawn to things they can chew on and are stimulated by things that move, said Dr. Carlo Siracusa, director of the Penn Vet Behavior Service at the University of

Pennsylvania.

"Many times we think that we should protect our home from a new puppy," Siracusa said, because the puppy could potentially cause damage. But more important is the opposite: making sure that puppies are safe in their new home.

Most essential is to create a safe haven — a place where the puppy can rest and sleep when there is too much excitement or stimulation, such as when kids have friends visiting, Siracusa says.

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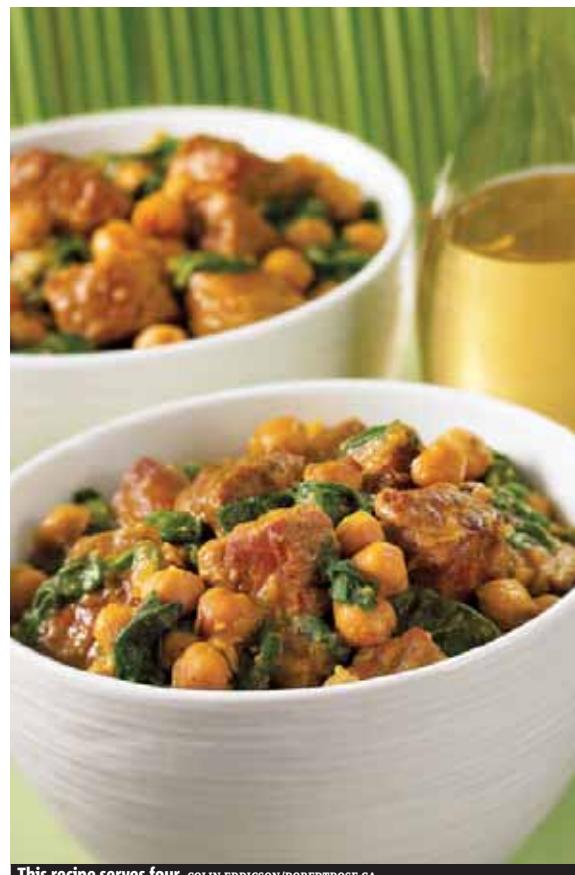


Slow cooker meal packs protein punch

Beef and Chickpea Curry with Spinach. The Indian-inspired flavours will have your taste buds doing a happy dance

"I like to serve this with brown basmati rice, not only because I like its pleasant nutty flavor but also for its nutritional value," writes Judith Finlayson in her book *The Healthy Slow Cooker, Second Edition*.

1. In a skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat. Add beef,



This recipe serves four. COLIN ERICKSON/ROBERTROSE.CA

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in batches, and cook, stirring, adding additional oil if necessary, until browned, about 4 minutes per batch. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware.

2. Reduce heat to medium. Add onions to pan and cook, stirring, until softened, about 3 minutes. Add garlic, ginger, peppercorns, cinnamon stick and bay leaf and cook, stirring, for 1 minute. Add beef stock and bring to a boil.

3. Transfer to slow cooker stoneware. Add chickpeas and stir well. Cover and cook on Low for 8 hours or on High for 4 hours, until beef is tender. Add curry powder solution and stir well. Add spinach, in batches, stirring until each batch is submerged in the curry. Cover and cook on High for 20 minutes, until spinach is wilted. Discard cinnamon stick and bay leaf. Ladle into bowls and drizzle with yogurt, if using.

COURTESY THE HEALTHY SLOW COOKER, 2014 © ROBERTROSE.CA REPRINTED WITH PUBLISHER PERMISSION.

Ingredients and Tools

- Medium to large (3 1/2 to 5 quart) slow cooker
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) olive oil
- 1 lb (500 g) trimmed stewing beef, cut into 1/2-inch (1 cm) cubes
- 2 onions, finely chopped
- 4 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) minced gingerroot
- 1/2 tsp (2 ml) cracked black peppercorns
- 1 piece (1 inch/2.5 cm) cinnamon stick
- 1 bay leaf
- 1 cup (250 ml) beef stock
- 2 cups (500 ml) cooked chickpeas, drained
- 1 tsp (5 ml) curry powder, dissolved in 2 tsp (10 ml) freshly squeezed lemon juice
- 1 lb (500 g) fresh spinach, stems removed
- 1 package (10 oz/300 g) spinach leaves, thawed if frozen
- Plain yogurt, optional

Cookbook of the Week

Slow and steady

In the follow-up to the first edition of *The Healthy Slow Cooker*, Judith Finlayson takes conflicting information about the changing face of dietary guidelines and balances it with a common-sense approach.

All the recipes in the book are deliciously nutrient-dense and have a rounded approach to meet a wide range of needs.

From soups and entrées to desserts, Finlayson uses the slow cooker to show readers how simple healthy eating can be. Among recipes are Easy Paella, Cheesy Grits, Bistro Fish Soup and more. METRO

MLB

McGowan to start Jays' home opener

Drew Hutchison and Dustin McGowan have won spots in the Toronto Blue Jays' rotation.

Manager John Gibbons announced the news before Wednesday's game against the New York Yankees.

Hutchison will pitch in the Jays' second regular-season game Tuesday at Tampa Bay. McGowan is in line to pitch the home opener against the Yankees on April 4.

McGowan has pitched in just 30 big-league games, including 25 in relief last season, since right-shoulder surgery in July 2008.

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NBA

Pacers beat Heat to clinch division

Paul George scored 23 points and Roy Hibbert had 21, leading the Indiana Pacers back from a seven-point fourth-quarter deficit for an 84-83 victory over the Miami Heat on Wednesday night.

The NBA's best home team ended a two-game losing streak, took a 2-1 lead in the season series against the two-time defending champions and rebuilt a three-game advantage in the race for the Eastern Conference's top seed. Indiana (52-20) also clinched its second straight Central Division crown, something it hadn't done since 1998-99 and 1999-2000.

LeBron James scored 38 points, but missed a potential go-ahead three-pointer late. Chris Bosh had a jumper at the buzzer to win it but hit nothing but air.

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Ducks storm back to snuff the Flames

The Flames' Lance Bouma has his shot stopped by Ducks goalie Jonas Hiller at the Scotiabank Saddledome on Wednesday night. The Flames took a 2-1 lead into the third period before Mathieu Perreault and Andrew Cogliano scored to give the Ducks a 3-2 win. Brian McGrattan and Jiri Hudler scored for Calgary. Nick Bonino also scored for Anaheim.

DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

4 SPORTS

CFL investing in the future for 2015

CFL. Commish Cohon sings praises of IGF, talks CBA at Grey Cup announcement

33,500-seat Investors Group Field, which opened last year. Seating will be expanded to 41,000 with temporary seating for the championship game.

Winnipeg has hosted the Grey Cup in 2006, 1999 and 1991.

"This gives us a great opportunity to showcase the modern CFL in our premier event in a beautiful, modern Investors Group Field," Cohon said at a luncheon in Winnipeg.

"It's really the new look and feel that we have that's coming across the league."

He pointed out the Hamilton Tiger-Cats will open Tim Hortons Field this summer,

while the expansion Ottawa Redblacks will christen TD Place this year. Regina is set to open its new stadium for the Saskatchewan Roughriders in 2017.

But there are some dark clouds looming over the league, as the four-year collective bargaining agreement with the CFL Players' Association expires in late May just before training camps open.

Players are looking for a bigger piece of the pie, with revenue sharing reportedly one of their goals. Talks between the association and league broke off earlier this month, but are scheduled to continue next month.

Cohon has been publicly silent on negotiations, but when asked about it he said the league has been open with players about the state of its finances.

"It's not about revenues, it's about profitability," Cohon said.

"So I think it's really important that people understand, and our players understand that, and our fans understand, this league is getting stronger but we still have a ways to go."

When asked about the league being philosophically against the concept of a revenue-sharing agreement, Cohon said he wouldn't talk specifics. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Kevin Martin, left, will not be playing alongside Ben Hebert and Marc Kennedy following this season. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Departures leave Martin's future hazy

Curling. Kennedy, Hebert announce move to another rink; skip unsure if he'll continue competing

Veteran skip Kevin Martin will have a much different lineup if he decides to return for another season on the men's curling circuit.

Team second Marc Kennedy and lead Ben Hebert plan to leave Martin's rink after this season to join reigning national champion Kevin Koe. It's the first major move of what's expected to be an off-season

Quoted

"I sure wish none of this stuff (came) out. I'm not exactly sure how it did but it's too bad."

Kevin Martin, on having his second and lead leave his team following this season.

loaded with significant roster changes.

As for the 47-year-old Martin, who has national, world and Olympic titles on his glowing résumé, he plans to take some time after the season to consider his future plans.

"I can't confirm that I'm looking for a new roster," Martin told The Canadian Press on Wednesday from Napa Valley, Calif. "But I can confirm that

Marc and Ben are going to curl with Kev, yeah. I haven't decided if I'm going to curl again at all."

In addition to Kennedy and Hebert, the new Koe foursome will also include Brent Laing of Team Glenn Howard, according to a recent Rogers Sportsnet website report.

Laing declined to comment and a message left with Howard was not immediately returned.

The timing of the news is less than ideal for Koe and his current lineup of third Pat Simmons, second Carter Rycroft and lead Nolan Thiessen, who will try to put the distraction aside as they prepare to play at the world championship in Beijing this Saturday.

Koe preferred to keep his focus on the upcoming competition and respectfully declined comment.

Rycroft, whose wife is pregnant, has already said he'll be taking a year off from the sport after this season. Simmons and Thiessen were not available for comment and their future plans remain unclear.

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Desperate Canucks answer call of the Wild

The Vancouver Canucks' David Booth reacts after scoring a second-period goal on Minnesota Wild goalie Darcy Kuemper during NHL action in St. Paul, Minn., on Wednesday. The Canucks won 5-2 and kept their slim hopes of qualifying for this year's Stanley Cup playoffs alive with the victory. Vancouver travels to Denver for a must-win game against the Colorado Avalanche on Thursday. ANN HEISENFELT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Spring training

Jays get a win despite dismal Dickey start

Toronto opening day starter R.A. Dickey gave up six runs and seven hits over three innings in the Blue Jays' 10-6 victory over the New York Yankees Wednesday.

The knuckleballer struck out two and walked four in his final spring training start before Monday's opener at Tampa Bay.

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Tennis

Djoker pulls fast one on Murray

Novak Djokovic benefited from an erroneous call and claimed he didn't realize he had broken the rules. When Andy Murray walked to the net and challenged him about it, Djokovic responded with a shrug and a sheepish smile.

Murray lost the dispute, and the match. The pivotal ruling helped Djokovic win 7-5, 6-3 in the quarter-finals of the Sony Open.

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Horoscopes

Aries

March 21 - April 20

Hopefully you will see solutions today where before you saw only problems. That applies to all areas of your life but especially to money matters and business issues that involve other people. Together you can make a profit and have fun.

Taurus

April 21 - May 21

Do you get involved in a feud between friends? You know the answer already, so don't be silly and stand between them to try to keep the peace. If you do, they will gang up on you.

Gemini

May 22 - June 21

If you can get someone else to do some of your chores for you today then go for it. You have more important matters to take care of and you may not have energy to spare.

Cancer

June 22 - July 23

Others can sense your self-confidence and because of that they want to do things for you. Who are you to refuse any offers? It will give you more time to work on a creative project.

Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

If you need help over the next 24 hours come out and ask for it. If you wait for others to realize that you require assistance chances are you will never get it. They can't read your mind.

Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will find it easy to express yourself today and, more importantly, others will find it easy to understand you. If you are involved in a creative pursuit this is also a good time to impress important people.

Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You'll hear something to your benefit today but your suspicious nature could hold you back from taking advantage. Unless there's evidence someone is trying to trick you, take a chance.

Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You'll find it easy to work out what is going on in someone's mind today, which in turn will help you decide what you should do next. You see the kind of body language that other people miss.

Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

It's not like you to withdraw into your shell but you may do so over the next 24 hours. That's OK. You have important issues to decide on and you won't think straight if there is too much noise around you.

Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

No matter how busy you may be work wise, make an effort to free up some time to spend with your loved ones. They are the people who really matter.

Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

A remark you toss out into the conversation may not be meant in a negative way but that's how one person may take it. If they do seem offended let them know that you meant no harm.

Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

Something will happen today that makes you wonder if there is more going on behind the scenes. Make it your business to find out why certain people are acting so strangely – and use what you discover for your own advantage. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Weather

TODAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



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MIN: -9°



MAX: -5°
MIN: -11°



MAX: -3°
MIN: -12°



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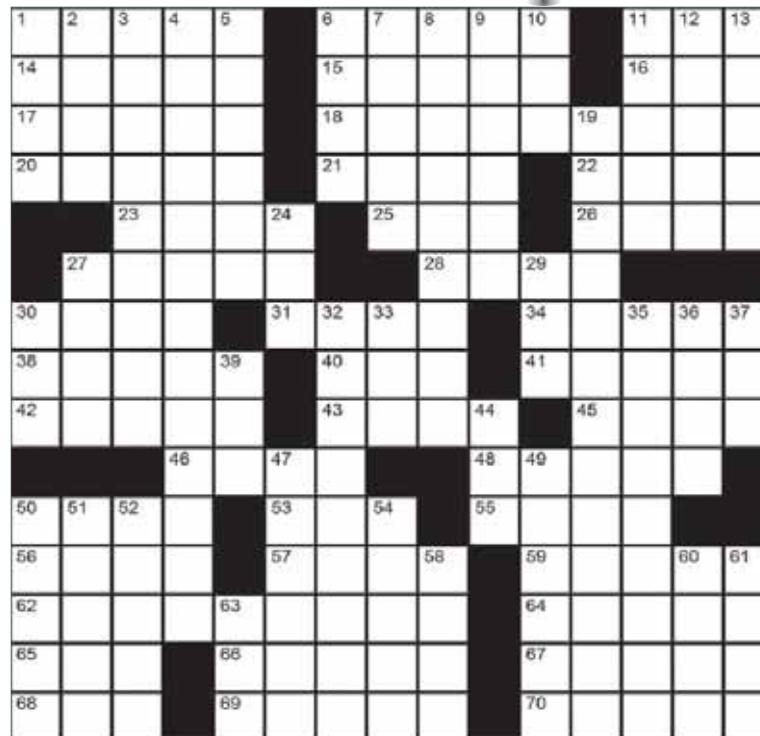
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Crossword: Canada Across and Down



See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

Toronto: 2 wds.
24. Norse god of strife
27. Community in The Muskokas in Ontario that has an annual cranberry festival
29. For instances, for short
30. Actress Susan
32. Where Mayor of Toronto Rob Ford was born
33. Promissory note
35. That which Canadian ace Billy Bishop had to engage in during WWI: 2 wds.
36. Length measure
37. Grassland
39. "Blues" by The Beatles
44. Printemps follower
47. GM car safety system
49. Alanis Morissette's: "You Know"
50. Showy sowings
51. Be of service
52. A brother of Ron Weasley's in 'Harry Potter' books
54. 17th-century English composer, Henry
58. Scientific 'strands'
60. Immobilizing spray
61. Power [abbr.]
63. "Plush" rock gr.

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku



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